GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4931
ANSWERED ON:26.04.2000
VISIT OF TURKISH PRIME MINISTER
ANANTA NAYAK;PUTTASWAMY GOWDA;S. JAGATHRAKSHAKAN;SAMUDRALA VENUGOPAL CHARY

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Turkish Prime Minister visited India recently;

(b) if so, the details of discussions held between the two countries;

(c) whether India apprised the Turkish Government of the threat being posed by Pakistan in this region;

(d) if so, the reaction of the Turkish Prime Minister thereto;

(e) the bilateral agreements signed between both the countries;

(f) the areas of bilateral cooperations identified; and (g) the impact of the visit on Indo-Turkish relations?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNALAFFAIRS

(SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA)

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. Matters relating to bilateral cooperation as also regional and international issues of mutual interest were discussed.

(c) & (d) The Turkish Prime Minister was apprised of the security situation in India`s region. The two sides condemned the increasing incidents of international terrorism and pledged to continue to support international efforts and to work together to combat the problem within the framework of international agreements and conventions.

(e) & (f) Documents signed were: 1) MoU on establishment of mechanism for political consultations between the foreign ministries of India and Turkey; 2) MoU on cooperation in the field of agriculture and allied sectors; and 3) Cultural Exchange Programme for the years 2000-2002. Both sides felt that apart from increased trade, opportunities existed for cooperation in developmental projects in India and Turkey and in third countries. Infrastructure, including railways; agriculture; and computer software were among areas identified for future cooperation.

(g) The visit contributed positively to further strengthening of Indo-Turkish relations.